

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A spray ring, for wetting char and/or slag in a water bath with a wetting fluid, the spray ring comprising a loop conduit arranged in a loop-line, which loop conduit is at an inlet point provided with an inlet for feeding the wetting fluid into the loop conduit in an inlet flow direction, and with a plurality of outlet openings for spraying the wetting fluid out of the loop conduit, wherein the inlet flow direction has a component that is tangential to a loop-line flow direction of the wetting fluid through the loop conduit at the inlet point.
2. (Original) The spray ring of claim 1, wherein the loop conduit forms a peripheral ambit around an encompassed area and whereby the outlet openings are directed such that the outlet flow direction of the wetting fluid has a component directed inwardly towards the encompassed area.
3. (Previously Presented) The spray ring of claim 1, wherein one or more of the outlet openings are provided with a connecting flange for holding flange-connectable nozzles.
4. (Previously Presented) The spray ring of claim 1, wherein the conduit forming the loop conduit has an internal cross sectional contour in a plane perpendicular to the loop-line flow direction that is free from a convex section.
5. (Previously Presented) The spray ring of claim 1, wherein the loop conduit extends in a two-dimensional plane and the inlet point is provided in the outer peripheral wall of the loop conduit.
6. (Previously Presented) The spray ring of claim 1, wherein a plurality of inlets are provided in a plurality of inlet points, whereby the inlet flow direction in each of the inlet points has a component that is tangential to the loop-line flow direction in each inlet point.

7. (Original) The spray ring of claim 6, wherein the plurality of inlet points are equally distributed along the loop conduit.

8. (Currently Amended) The spray ring of claim 1, wherein the included angle between the inlet flow direction and the loop-line flow in each inlet point is less than 80°.

9. (Currently Amended) A reactor vessel comprising a reaction area and, disposed gravitationally lower than the reaction area, a slag water bath for holding water and receiving char and/or slag from the reaction area, and a spray ring comprising a loop conduit arranged in a loop-line, which loop conduit is at an inlet point provided with an inlet for feeding a wetting fluid into the loop conduit in an inlet flow direction, and with a plurality of outlet openings for spraying the wetting fluid out of the loop conduit, wherein the inlet flow direction has a component that is tangential to a loop-line flow direction of the wetting fluid through the loop conduit at the inlet point, said spray ring being arranged above the water surface of the water in the slag water bath.

10. (Original) The reactor vessel of claim 9, which reactor vessel is provided with an inlet port for connecting to a wetting fluid supply, whereby the inlet port is located gravitationally higher than the spray ring, and wherein the inlet opening of the spray ring is connected to the inlet port via an internal supply conduit.

11. (Original) The reactor vessel of claim 10, wherein the internal supply conduit extends exclusively non-horizontally.

12. (Currently Amended) The reactor vessel of claim 10, wherein the internal supply conduit is connected to the inlet port via a distribution box, which distribution box is provided with an access port in a wall part opposite the internal supply conduit and essentially in line with the internal supply conduit.

Claims 13-15 (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) The spray ring of claim 2, wherein the conduit forming the loop conduit has an internal cross sectional contour in a plane perpendicular to the loop-line flow direction that is free from a convex section.

17. (Previously Presented) The reactor vessel of claim 9, wherein the loop conduit forms a peripheral ambit around an encompassed area and whereby the outlet openings are directed such that the outlet flow direction of the wetting fluid has a component directed inwardly towards the encompassed area.

18. (Previously Presented) The reactor vessel of claim 9, wherein the plurality of outlet openings are directed directly to the water surface.

19. (Previously Presented) The reactor vessel of claim 9, wherein the conduit forming the loop conduit has an internal cross sectional contour in a plane perpendicular to the loop-line flow direction that is free from a convex section.

Claim 20 (Canceled).